AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Previously cancelled)

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A diagnostic reagent for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection comprising a solid phase sensitized with a genetic recombinant HCV antigen and [a] one or more synthesized HCV antigens.

Claim 14 (Previously Added) The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is an HCV non-structural region protein.

Claim 15 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is NS3 antigen.

Claim 16 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 17 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen comprises an HCV non-structural region protein and an HCV structural region protein.

Claim 18 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen comprises core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 19 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is conjugated with a carrier protein.

Claim 20 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 19, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen is selected from the group consisting of core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 21 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 19, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen comprises an HCV non-structural region protein and an HCV structural region protein.

Claim 22 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 19, wherein the synthesized HCV antigen comprises core peptide, NS4 peptide and NS5 peptide.

Claim 23 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 19, wherein the carrier protein and the synthesized HCV antigen are present at a ratio of about 1:3 to 1:20 (carrier protein: synthesized HCV antigen).

Claim 24 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the solid phase is directly sensitized with the genetic recombinant HCV antigen.

Claim 25 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is conjugated with a carrier protein.

Claim 26 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 25, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is selected from HCV non-structural region proteins.

Claim 27 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 25, wherein the genetic recombinant HCV antigen is NS3 antigen.

Claim 28 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 19, wherein the carrier protein is a water-soluble protein.

Claim 29 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 28, wherein the water-soluble protein is selected from the group consisting of BSA, ovalbumin and hemocyanin.

Claim 30 (Previously Added): The diagnostic reagent of claim 1, wherein the solid phase is a carrier particle.